

## RET

**TO RETRIBUTE.** *v. a.* [*retribuo*, Lat. *retribuere*, Fr.] To pay back; to make repayment of.

Both the will and power to serve him are his upon so many scores, that we are unable to *retribute*, unless we do restore; and all the duties we can pay our maker are less properly, requitals than restitutions. *Boyle.*

In the state of nature, a man comes by no arbitrary power to use a criminal, but only to *retribute* to him, so far as calm reason and conscience dictate, what is proportionate to his transgression. *Locke.*

**RETRIBUTION.** *n. f.* [*retribution*, Fr. from *retribuo*.] Repayment; return accommodated to the action.

The king thought he had not remunerated his people sufficiently with good laws, which evermore was his *retribution* for treasure. *Bacon's Henry VII.*

All who have their reward on earth, the fruits Of painful superstition, and blind zeal, Nought seeking but the praise of men, here find Fit *retribution*, empty as their deeds. *Milton's Par. Lost.*

In good offices and due *retributions*, we may not be pinching and niggardly: it argues an ignoble mind, where we have wronged to higgie and dodge in the amends. *Hall.*

There is no nation, though plunged into never such gross idolatry, but has some awful sense of a deity, and a persuasion of a state of *retribution* to men after this life. *South.*

It is a strong argument for a state of *retribution* hereafter, that in this world virtuous persons are very often unfortunate, and vicious persons prosperous. *Addison's Spectator.*

**RETRIBUTORY.** *adj.* [from *retribuo*.] Repaying; making *RETRIBUTIVE.* } repayment.

Something strangely *retributive* is working. *Clarissa.*

**RETRIEVABLE.** *adj.* [from *retrievo*.] That may be retrieved.

**TO RETRIEVE.** *v. a.* [*retrouer*, Fr.] To recover; to restore.

By this conduct we may *retrieve* the publick credit of religion, reform the example of the age, and lessen the danger we complain of. *Rogers's Sermons.*

2. To repair.

O reason! once again to thee I call; Accept my sorrow, and *retrieve* my fall. *Prior.*

3. To regain.

With late repentance now they would *retrieve* The bodies they forsook, and wish to live, *Dryden.*

Philomela's liberty *retrieved*, Cheers her sad soul. *Philips.*

4. To recall; to bring back.

If one, like the old Latin poets, came among them, it would be a means to *retrieve* them from their cold trivial conceits, to an imitation of their predecessors. *Berkeley to Pope.*

**RETROCESSION.** *n. f.* [*retrocessionem*, Lat.] The act of going back.

**RETROCOPIATION.** *n. f.* [*retro and copulation*.] Post-copulation.

From the nature of this position, there ensueth a necessity of *retrocooperation*. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*

**RETROGRADATION.** *n. f.* [*retrogradation*, Fr. from *retrograde*.] The act of going backward.

As for the revolutions, stations, and *retrogradations* of the planets, observed constantly in most certain periods of time, sufficiently demonstrates, that their motions are governed by counsel. *Ray on the Creation.*

**RETROGRADE.** *adj.* [*retrograde*, Fr. *retro* and *gradior*, Lat.]

Princes, if they use ambitious men, should handle it so, as they be still progressive, and not *retrograde*. *Bacon.*

2. Contrary; opposite.

Your intent In going back to school to Wittenberg, Is most *retrograde* to our desire. *Shakespeare's Hamlet.*

3. In astronomy, planets are *retrograde*, when by their proper motion in the zodiac, they move backward, and contrary to the succession of the signs; as from the second degree of Aries to the first; but this *retrogradation* is only apparent and occasioned by the observer's eye being placed on the earth; for to an eye at the sun, the planet will appear always direct, and never either stationary or *retrograde*. *Harris.*

Their wand'ring course, now high, now low, then hid, Progressive, *retrograde*, or standing still, In six thou' sec't. *Shakespeare's Paradise Lost.*

Two geomantick figures were display'd; One when direct, and one when *retrograde*. *Dryden.*

**TO RETROGRADE.** *v. n.* [*retrograder*, Fr. *retro* and *gradior*, Lat.] To go backward.

The race and period of all things here is to turn things more pneumatical and rare, and not to *retrograde* from pneumatical to that which is dense. *Bacon.*

**RETROGRESSION.** *n. f.* [*retro and gressus*, Lat.] The act of going backwards.

The account, established upon the rise and descent of the stars, can be no reasonable rule unto distant nations, and by reason of their *retrogression*, but temporary unto any one. *Bro.*

**RETROMINGENCY.** *n. f.* [*retro and mingo*, Lat.] The quality of staling backwards.

The last foundation was *retromingency*, or pissing backwards; for men observing both sexes to urine backwards, or

averily between their legs, they might conceive there were feminine parts in both. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*

**RETROMINGENT.** *adj.* [*retro and mingo*, Lat.] Staling backward.

By reason of the backward position of the feminine parts of quadrupeds, they can hardly admit the substitution of masculine generations, except it be in *retromingenti*. *Brown.*

**RETROSPECT.** *n. f.* [*retro and specio*, Lat.] Look thrown upon things behind or things past.

As you arraign his majesty by *retrospect*, so you condemn his government by second sight. *Addison's Freeholder, No 9.*

**RETROSPECTION.** *n. f.* [from *retrospect*.] Act or faculty of looking backwards.

Can't thou take delight in viewing This poor life's approaching ruin, When thy *retrospection* vast Sees the glorious ages past? Happy nation were we blind, Or had only eyes behind. *Swift.*

**RETROSPECTIVE.** *adj.* [from *retrospect*.] Looking backwards.

In vain the grave, with *retrospective* eyes, Would from the apparent what conclude the why. *Pope.*

**TO RETUND.** *v. a.* [*retundo*, Lat.] To blunt; to turn.

Covered with skin and hair keeps it warm, being naturally a very cold part, and also to quench and dissipate the force of any stroke that shall be dealt it, and *retund* the edge of any weapon. *Ray on the Creation.*

**TO RETURN.** *v. n.* [*retourner*, Fr.]

1. To come to the same place.

Return, my son David, for I will do thee no harm. *1 Sam.*

Whoso rolleth a stone, it will *return* upon him. *Prov. xxvi.*

Go, *return* on thy way to the wilderness. *1 Kings xix. 15.*

2. To come back to the same state.

The waters *returned* from off the earth continually. *Gen.*

Judgment shall *return* unto righteousness. *Psal. xciv. 15.*

In *returning* and rest shall ye be saved. *Isaiah xxxv. 15.*

On their embattel'd ranks the waves *return*. *Milton.*

If they *returned* out of bondage, it must be into a state of freedom. *Locke.*

3. To go back.

I am in blood Stept in so far, that should I wade no more, *Shakespeare's Macbeth.*

Returning were as tedious as go o'er. *Shakespeare's Macbeth.*

Hezekiah sent to the king of Assyria, saying, I have offended, *return* from me. *2 Kings xviii. 14.*

To *return* to the business in hand, the use of a little insight in those parts of knowledge, is to accustom our minds to all sorts of ideas. *Locke.*

4. To make answer.

The thing of courage, As rouz'd with rage, with rage doth sympathize; And with an accent tun'd in self same key, *Shakespeare's Troil. and Cressida.*

Returns to chiding fortune. *Shakespeare's Troil. and Cressida.*

He said; and thus the queen of heaven *return'd*; Muff I, oh Jove in bloody wars contend! *Pope.*

5. To come back; to come again; to revisit.

Thou to mankind Be good, and friendly still, and oft *return*. *Milton.*

6. After a periodical revolution, to begin the same again.

With the year Seasons *return*, but not to me *return* *Milton.*

Days, or the sweet approach of ev'n or morn. *Milton.*

7. To retort; to recriminate.

If you are a malicious reader, you *return* upon me, that I affect to be thought more impartial than I am. *Dryden.*

**TO RETURN.** *v. a.*

1. To repay; to give in requital.

Return him a trespass offering. *1 Sam. vi. 3.*

Thy Lord shall *return* thy wickedness upon thine own head. *1 Kings ii. 44.*

What peace can we *return*, But to our power, hostility, and hate. *Milton.*

When answer none *return'd*, I set me down. *Milton.*

2. To give back.

What counsel give ye to *return* answer to this people. *2 Chr.*

3. To send back.

Reject not then what offer'd means, who knows But God hath set before us, to *return* thee Home to thy country and his sacred house. *Milton's Agon.*

4. To give account of.

Probably one fourth part more died of the plague than are *returned*. *Grant's Bills of Mortality.*

5. To transmit.

Instead of a ship, he should levy money, and *return* the same to the treasurer for his majesty's use. *Clarendon.*

**RETURN.** *n. f.* [from the verb.]

1. Act of coming back to the same place.

The king of France so suddenly gone back! Something since his coming forth is thought of, That his *return* was now most necessary. *Shakespeare.*

When forc'd from hence to view our parts he mourns; Takes little journeys, and makes quick *return*. *Dryden.*

2. Retrogression.

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3. Act of coming back to the same state.

At the *return* of the year, the king of Syria will come up. *1 Kings xx. 22.*

4. Revolution; vicissitude.

Weapons hardly fall under rule; yet even they have *returns* and vicissitudes; for ordnance was known in the city of the Oxidraes in India, and is what the Macedonians called *Bacon's Essays.*

5. Repayment of money laid out in commodities for sale.

As for any merchandize you have bought, ye shall have your *return* in merchandize or gold. *Bacon.*

As to roots accelerated in their ripening, there is the high price that those things bear, and the swiftness of their *returns*; for, in some grounds, a radish comes in a month, that in others will not come in two, and so make double *returns*. *Bacon.*

6. Profit; advantage.

The fruit, from many days of recreation, is very little; but from these few hours we spend in prayer, the *return* is great. *Taylor's Rule of Living Holy.*

7. Remittance; payment from a distant place.

Within these two months, I do expect *return* Of thrice three times the value of this bond. *Shakespeare.*

Brokers cannot have less money by them, than one twentieth part of their yearly *returns*. *Locke.*

8. Repayment; retribution; requital.

You made my liberty your late request, Is no *return* due from a grateful breast? *Dryden.*

I grow impatient, 'till I find some way, Great offices, with greater to repay.

Since these are some of the *returns* which we made to God after obtaining our successes, can we reasonably presume, that we are in the favour of God? *Atterbury.*

Nothing better becomes a person in a publick character, than such a publick spirit; nor is there any thing likely to procure him larger *returns* of esteem. *Atterbury.*

*Returns*, like these, our mistress bids us make, When from a foreign prince a gift her Britons take. *Prior.*

Ungrateful lord! Would'st thou invade my life, as a *return* For proffer'd love? *Rowe.*

9. Act of restoring or giving back; restitution.

The other ground of God's sole property in any thing, is the gift, or rather the *return* of it made by man to God. *South.*

10. Relapse.

This is breaking into a constitution to serve a present expedient; the remedy of an empirick, to stifle the present pain, but with certain prospect of sudden *returns*. *Swift.*

11. [Return, Fr.]

Either of the adjoining sides of the front of an house, or ground-plot, is called a *return* side. *Moxon's Mech. Exerc.*

Both these sides are not only *returns*, but parts of the front, and a stately tower in the midst of the front. *Bacon.*

**RETURNABLE.** *adj.* Allowed to be reported back. A law term.

It may be decided in that court, where the verdict is *returnable*. *Hale.*

He shall have an attachment against the sheriff, directed to the coroner, and *returnable* into the king's bench. *Ayliffe.*

**RETURNER.** *n. f.* [from *return*.] One who pays or remits money.

The chapmen, that give highest for this, can make most profit by it, and those are the *returners* of our money. *Locke.*

**REVE.** *n. f.* The bailiff of a franchise or manour.

The *reve*, the miller, and the mincing lady prioress speak in character. *Dryden.*

**TO REVEAL.** *v. a.* [*revelo*, Lat. *revelare*, Fr.]

1. To show; to discover; to lay open; to disclose a secret.

Be affamed: speaking again that which thou hast heard, and *revealing* of secrets. *Ecclesi. xli. 23.*

I will cure them, and *reveal* unto them the abundance of peace. *Jer. xxxiii. 6.*

Light was the wound, the prince's care unknown, She might not, would not yet *reveal* her own. *Waller.*

The answer to one who asked what time was, *si non regas intellige*; that is, the more I think of time, the less I understand it; might persuade one, that time, which *reveals* all other things, is itself not to be discovered. *Locke.*

2. To impart from heaven.

The sufferings of this life are not to be compared with the glory which shall be *revealed* in us. *Romans viii. 18.*

**REVEALER.** *n. f.* [from *reveal*.]

1. Discoverer; one that shows or makes known.

The habit of faith in divinity is an argument of things unseen, as a stable assent unto things invident, upon authority of the divine *revealer*. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*

The lives of the *revealers* may be justly set over against the revelation, to find whether they agree. *Atterbury.*

2. One that discovers to view.

He brought a taper; the *revealer* light Expos'd both crime and criminal to light. *Dryden.*

**TO REVEL.** *v. n.* [*Skimmer* derives it from *reveiller*, Fr. to awake; Mr. Lye from *raueelen*, Dutch, to rove loosely about, which is much countenanced by the old phrase, *revel-rout*.]

1. To feast with loose and clamorous merriment.

My honey love, Will we return unto thy father's house, And *revel* it as bravely as the best. *Shakespeare.*

We'll keep no great ado—a friend or two. Tybalt being slain to late, It may be thought we held him carelessly, Being our kinsman, if we *revel* much. *Shakespeare.*

Antony, that *revels* long o' nights, Is up. *Shakespeare's Julius Caesar.*

We shall have *revelling* to-night; I will assume thy part in some disguise. *Shakespeare.*

He can report you more odd tales Of our outlaw Robin Hood, That *revell'd* here in Sherwood, Though he ne'er shot in his bow. *Benj. Johnson.*

Were the doctrine new, That the earth mov'd, this day would make it true; For every part to dance and *revel* goes, They tread the air, and fall not where they rose. *Dante.*

Where'er I *revel'd* in the women's bow'rs; For first I sought her but at looser hours The apples she had gather'd smelt most sweet. *Prior.*

**REVEL.** *n. f.* [from the verb.] A feast with loose and noisy jollity.

Let them pinch th' unclean knight, And ask him, why, that hour of fairy *revel*, In their so sacred paths he dares to tread? *Shakespeare.*

They could do no less but, under your fair conduct, Crave leave to view these ladies, and intreat An hour of *revells* with them. *Shakespeare.*

**TO REVEL.** *v. a.* [*revello*, Lat.] To retract; to draw back.

Those, who miserably, escape by their flood, *revelling* the humours from their lungs. *Harvey.*

**REVEL-ROUT.** *n. f.* A mob; an unlawful assembly of a rabble.

For this his minion, the *revel rout* is done: —I have been told, that you Are frequent in your visitation to her. *Rowe's Jane Shore.*

**REVELATION.** *n. f.* [from *revelatio*, Fr.] Discovery; communication; communication of sacred and mysterious truths by a teacher from heaven.

When the divine *revelations* were committed to writing, the Jews were such scrupulous reverers of them, that they numbered even the letters of the Old Testament. *D. of Pis.*

As the gospel appears in respect of the law to be a clearer *revelation* of the mystical part, so it is a far more benign dispensation of the practical part. *Spratt.*

**REVELLER.** *n. f.* [from *revel*.] One who feasts with noisy jollity.

Fairies black, grey, green and white, You moonshine *revellers* attend your office. *Shakespeare.*

Unwelcome *revellers*, whose lawless joy Pains the sage ear, and hurts the sober eye. *Pope.*

**REVELRY.** *n. f.* [from *revel*.] Loose jollity; festive mirth.

Forget this new-fall'n dignity, And fall into our rustic *revellry*. *Shakespeare.*

There let Hymen oft appear In saffron robe with taper clear, And pomp, and feast, and *revellry*, With mask and antick pageantry. *Milton.*

**TO REVENGE.** *v. a.* [*revenger*, *revancher*, Fr.]

1. To return an injury.

If our hard fortune no compassion draws, The gods are just, and will *revenge* our cause. *Dryden.*

3. To wreak one's wrongs on him that inflicted them. With the reciprocal pronoun.

Come, Antony and young Octavius, *Revenge yourselves* alone on Cassius. *Shakespeare's Jul. Caesar.*

It is a quarrel most unnatural, To be *reveng'd* on him that loveth thee. *Shakespeare's Rich. III.*

Northumberland slew thy father; And thine, lord Clifford; and you vow'd *revenge*: If I be not, heav'n's be *reveng'd* on me! *Shakespeare.*

Edom hath *revenged himself* upon Judah. *Ezek. xxv. 12.*

O Lord, visit me, and *revenge* me of my persecutors. *Jer.*

Who shall come to stand against thee, to be *revenged* for the unrighteous men? *Wisdom xii. 12.*